

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L LUSAKA 0934

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E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: PDEV RH US UK OVIP (CARTER, JIMMY)
SUBJ: PRESIDENT KAUNDA SUGGESTS PRESIDENT CARTER VISIT
SOUTHERN AFRICA

1. PRESIDENT KAUNDA PHONED ME AT HOME TUESDAY EVENING TO ASK THAT I COME OVER TO STATE HOUSE IMMEDIATELY. WHEN I GOT THERE HE EXPLAINED BRIEFLY THAT HE WANTED ME TO TRANSMIT IMMEDIATELY HIS REQUEST THAT PRESIDENT CARTER FIND TIME IN HIS FORTHCOMING TRIP TO AFRICA TO VISIT ONE OF THREE FRONTLINE CAPITALS-- LUSAKA, DAR OR MAPUTO--TO MEET WITH HIM AND THREE OTHER FRONTLINE COLLEAGUES (KAUNDA RECOGNIZED THAT IT WOULD BE INAPPROPRIATE FOR PRESIDENT CARTER TO MEET WITH THE ANGOLAN).

2. KAUNDA SAID HE WAS PLEASED BY THE INVITATION FROM THE NIGERIANS AND WOULD LIKE VERY MUCH TO MEET THE PRESIDENT IN LAGOS (HE LEFT IT VAGUE AS TO WHETHER HE WAS TALKING ABOUT HIMSELF TRAVELING TO LAGOS OR HIS FOREIGN MINISTER). HE APPRECIATED THE VERY IMPORTANT ROLE NIGERIA WAS PLAYING AT THE MOMENT, PARTICULARLY VIS-A-VIS THE U.K. HOWEVER, IT WAS HIS STRONG FEELING THAT THE PRESIDENT SHOULD VISIT SOUTHERN AFRICA IN ORDER TO DEAL WITH THE CONTINENT'S MOST PRESSING ISSUE. HE FELT THAT THE SITUATION HERE WAS BECOMING INCREASINGLY CRITICAL AND HE SAID AS HE HAD TOLD ANDY YOUNG IN FEBRUARY OF 1976, ONLY THE UNITED
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STATES COULD SERIOUSLY ADDRESS THE PROBLEM AND HELP IN A CONSTRUCTIVE SOLUTION.

3. EARLIER IN THE AFTERNOON MARK CHONA HAD MADE THE SUGGESTION TO ME BUT URGED THAT I WAIT THE PRESIDENT'S OWN WORD ON THE MATTER. CHONA'S THOUGHT IS THAT A MEETING WITH PRESIDENT CARTER COULD COME AFTER THE FRONTLINE MEETING IN DAR THIS WEEKEND,

AND BEFORE THE FRONTLINE PRESIDENTS MEET WITH THE NATIONALISTS. IT COULD THUS SERVE TO GIVE AN AUTHORITY AND A DIRECTION TO THE FRONTLINE'S ATTEMPTS TO DEAL WITH THE SITUATION. I HAD EXPLAINED TO CHONA THAT THE PRESIDENTIAL TRIPS WERE HIGHLY COMPLICATED AFFAIRS INVOLVING A GREAT DEAL OF PLANNING AND PREPARATION. LAST MINUTE CHANGES WERE DIFFICULT.

4. COMMENT: I WOULD EXPECT KAUNDA TO CARRY HIS SUGGESTION TO THE FRONTLINE MEETING SATURDAY AND SUNDAY IN DAR AND THAT THE WHOLE GROUP WOULD THEN PROPOSE A MEETING WITH PRESIDENT CARTER. IN ANY COURSE I WILL BE SEEING THE PRESIDENT TOMORROW NIGHT WITH ANDY YOUNG AND THE MATTER WILL UNDOUBTEDLY BE BROUGHT UP AGAIN. I BELIEVE THAT THE OBJECTIVE OF PRESIDENT KAUNDA AND OTHER FRONTLINE LEADERS IN MEETING WITH PRESIDENT CARTER WOULD BE TO ENLIST OUR HELP IN ARRESTING PROGRESS OF THE SALISBURY INTERNAL SETTLEMENT. THEY WOULD PROBABLY ALSO ASK FOR OUR HELP IN CONVINCING MUZOREWA TO ABANDON THE SALISBURY GOVERNMENT. IN RETURN, I BELIEVE THEY WOULD PROMISE TO OBTAIN PATRIOTIC FRONT ACCEPTANCE OF THE ANGLO-AMERICAN PROPOSALS WITHOUT MAJOR CHANGE FROM THEIR PRESENT STATUS, AND THEY WOULD PLEDGE THEIR ASSISTANCE IN BRINGING THE WAR TO AN EARLY END.

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